

SENATE RESOLUTION 18
By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate President Scott Miller and Lincoln Memorial University on the school's one-hundredth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to recognize and commemorate special milestones in the storied history of our universities; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln Memorial University, in Harrogate, Tennessee, recently celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary; and

WHEREAS, the genesis for this great institution came from President Abraham Lincoln when he told General O. O. Howard, in 1863, "If you come through this misery alive, I want you to do something for those mountain people who have been shut out of the world all these years."; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend A. A. Myers, a Congregational minister, came to the Cumberland Gap in 1888 and opened the Harrow School, established for the purpose of providing elementary education to mountain youngsters; and

WHEREAS, on a visit to the area to give a series of lectures at Harrow School, General Howard remembered his commitment to fulfill Lincoln's request; and

WHEREAS, General Howard joined with Reverend Myers, M. F. Overton, C. F. Eager, A. B. Kesterson, M. Arthur and Robert F. Patterson, a Confederate veteran, to form the first board of the directors for the new university; and

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WHEREAS, the group purchased the buildings and grounds of an old hotel, "The Four Seasons", and in honor of Lincoln's birthday, the new institution was chartered by the state of Tennessee on February 12, 1897, as Lincoln Memorial University; and

WHEREAS, since that historic date, LMU has done an exemplary job of providing educational opportunities, developing community leadership and expanding economic and social forces within its region; and

WHEREAS, more than seven school alumni have entered either medical or legal practice in Appalachian communities, another three thousand have become professional educators serving in positions ranging from elementary teachers to university presidents and twenty-five graduates, including Jesse Stuart, have published widely recognized books, dramas, and musical compositions; and

WHEREAS, founded out of love and respect for Abraham Lincoln, Lincoln Memorial University today honors his name, values, and spirit; and

WHEREAS, the school is a private, independent, non-sectarian university strongly committed to educating men and women of diverse backgrounds, enabling them to earn a living, to make ethical decisions, and to lead purposeful and fulfilling lives, distinguished by intellectual, moral and spiritual growth; and

WHEREAS, the University is under the able leadership of President Scott Miller; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause to honor Lincoln Memorial University on its century of service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and congratulate President Scott Miller and Lincoln Memorial University on the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the university.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.